

Art Unit: 1711

Response to Amendment

Applicant's arguments filed 2/27/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Amendment submitted by Applicant does not overcome the rejection made by Examiner in the last Office action.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Stilmor or EP 0481478.

The rejection is maintained for the reasons as stated in the last Office action, and the Final Office action, and further for the following reasons:

Applicant's arguments are based on the term "resinous" which is used as opposed to "elastic" or "rubbery". This is incorrect since the Chemical Dictionary (Webster's ninth new collegiate dictionary) does disclose that resin is any of various solid or semisolid—natural organic substances¹.

Further, this is the claimed composition only and the characteristics such as "resinous, crosslinkable" does not have a patentable weight.

Note that the use of the term "crosslinkable" just showing that said copolymer can be crosslinked and no further than that.

Applicant's arguments are also based the use of steps of the process in EP'478 reference in that hydroxybutyl vinyl ether, methyl vinyl ether and TFE were polymerized (not crosslinked).

Said arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive since they are not commensurate in scope with the claims, since Examiner could not locate any crosslinked components in the claims at all.

Art Unit: 1711

Only new claim 5 discloses a resin composition comprising a crosslinkable, (differed from crosslinked) fluorine containing resinous copolymer having a functional group and a curing agent. Note that the term "curing agent" is a chemical term to show the component can be cured or crosslinked in that any components having a double bond or triple bond can break one bond to cure or crosslink other component doing the same thing.

Applicant's arguments are also based the claimed characteristic in that "even if a copolymer is spontaneously crosslinkable, the copolymer must also be insoluble in THF before crosslinking.

How does Applicant determine the relationships between the crosslinkable characteristic and "insoluble in THF?

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 1711

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-1081. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck, can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DUCTRUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER